

HABITAT HERALD

Wildlife Austin's monthly Newsletter



February 2015



Wildlife Austin

City of Austin
Parks and Recreation
919 W. 28 1/2 St.
Austin, TX 78705
(512) 978-2606
wildlife@austintexas.gov

UPCOMING :

Love Wildlife Day—Habitat Planting
Friday Feb 13, 2015 1pm to 4pm
Camacho Activity Center
34 Robert Martinez Jr. Street, 78702

Celebrate Urban Birds
February 18, 2015 9am
Birds of Lady Bird Lake Lecture
Camacho Activity Center, 34 Robert
Martinez Jr. Street, 78702
Activities include: Jane Tillman, Habitat
Steward, Travis Audubon Guided bird-
ing paddling trip on Lady Bird Lake
Park Ranger Julie Webber. Space is lim-
ited. RSVP to :
ryan.eaker@austintexas.gov or 512-391-
1863

Celebrate Urban Bird Free Event
Austin Nature and Science Center
ANSC Main Entry and Public Parking:
2389 Stratford Dr.
March 7, 2015 10am to 2pm
For more information
[http://www.austintexas.gov/event/
celebration-urban-birds-march-7-2015](http://www.austintexas.gov/event/celebration-urban-birds-march-7-2015)

Landscape Professional Training
Various Dates
Learn about earth-wise landscaping and
management practices from the experts,
so you can provide sustainable services
for your commercial and residential cus-
tomers.

[http://www.austintexas.gov/department/
professional-training](http://www.austintexas.gov/department/professional-training)

Happy (soon to be) Spring!

With the weather warming up, now is the perfect time to show your love for wildlife by providing: food, shelter, a place to raise young and to practice sustainable landscap- ing. For those of us looking to share our knowledge and love for wildlife, volunteering or participating at any of this month's events listed will prove rewarding. The Grow Green team is hosting a series of trainings for Land- scape Professionals (contractors, developers and property managers) who are responsible for providing landscaping services in Austin. Come out to Celebrate Urban Birds by partic- ipating in the upcoming events held at Eliza- bet Ney Museum and Austin Nature and Sci- ence Center. Be sure to save the date for the large celebration on March 7th, where we will learn about our urban bird populations and what we can do in our own backyards to pro- vide habitat basics for Austin's urban bird populations.

In This Issue...

- Living in an WUI
- Love Wildlife Day
- Urban Birds Festival
- School Yard

Would you like to receive the news- letter?

E-mail us at
wildlife@austintexas.gov



Living In a WUI

Food For Wildlife

During the winter months food can become more scarce for wildlife. This month's Living in a Wildland Urban Interface article focuses on providing food for wildlife in creative ways. Bird feeders can be made with a variety of materials that you may already have around

your home. Have some leftover pumpkins or citrus fruits that you got for the holidays?

Why not turn them into edible bird feed dispensers?

Fruits such as oranges, grapefruits, melons, and even



pumpkins can be scooped out and used as hanging bowls for suet feed or bird seed.

It's a nice way to use that pumpkin or orange that's looking a little old. Edible garland using popcorn, nuts and berries can also be used to decorate backyard trees, provide food for wildlife, and help you to rid your pantries of old snacks and trail mixes.

Old rum, wine, beer, and sports drinks can also be added to fruit feeders to attract butterflies.

Living In a WUI



Suggested Materials:

- 1 grapefruit or orange
- 2 pounds of suet
- 1 bag of birdseed
- string or ribbon

Cut the fruit in half and scoop out the inside s. Poke holes in the sides of the fruit for the strings. Stuff suet into the fruit and sprinkle birdseed over the suet. Place fruit in the freezer to let suet harden then hang in your yard!

Suggested Materials:

- 1 roll of twine
- sewing needles
- 2 bags of popped popcorn
- 3 bags of raw peanuts (in shells)
- apple chunks
- grapes
- cranberries



Love Wildlife Day

Friday Feb 13 2015

1pm -4p m

Camacho Activity Center

34 Robert T Martinez Jr St, Austin, TX 78702



Come show your love for wildlife by assisting with the beautification of the Camacho Activity center grounds. The Parks and Recreation Department and Wildlife Austin are in the initial phases of incorporating accessible access to the Camacho boat ramp. Wildlife Austin and Parks and Recreation will be planting wildlife friendly trees and shrubs to meet the critical needs of the local wildlife. Projects include: riparian stabilization, removal of invasive species, tree planting. Bring water, wear comfortable weather appropriate clothes and closed toed shoes.

For more information and to RSVP please email:

wildlife@austintexas.gov or call
512-974-9454



The City of Austin is proud to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

If you require assistance for participation in our programs or use of our facilities, please call (512) 974-3256.



Celebration of Urban Birds

Austin Nature & Science Center
2389 Stratford Drive

Saturday
March 7, 2015
10am - 2pm

Come Celebrate

the amazing birds you see around you everyday. Learn why we want to celebrate their presence in our city! Activities for the entire family include live bird demonstrations, expert lectures, kids' bird drawing, hands-on crafts and activities, a bird scavenger hunt and more!

Scheduled Activities

10:15am & 11:15am Beginner Bird Walk & Tour
10:30am, 11:30am, 12:30pm Live Bird Comparison
11am - 1pm Kids' Bird Drawing Activity
12pm & 1pm Bird of Prey Exhibit Tour

Ongoing Activities

- Making a Bird Feast
- Great Migration Challenge
- 10 minute Cornell Lab of Ornithology Bird Count
- Urban Bird Scavenger Hunt Activity
- Eat Like a Bird Activity

Additional Events and Locations for Celebrating Urban Birds:



February 1, 2015
Bird Friendly Crafts & Activities
Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum, 12pm - 4pm
605 Robert E. Lee Road, 78704



February 18, 2015
Birds of Lady Bird Lake Lecture
Grandma Lorraine Camacho Activity Center, 9am
Jane Tillman, Habitat Steward, Travis Audubon
Guided birding paddling trip on Lady Bird Lake
Park Ranger Julie Webber. Space is limited.
34 Robert Martinez Jr. Street, 78702
RSVP to ryan.eaker@austintexas.gov or 512-391-1863



February 21, 2015
Bird Watch and Bird Art
Elisabet Ney Museum, 1pm - 4pm
Bird watch on Waller Creek and create Bird art
304 E 44th Street, 78751

www.keeptaustinwild.com
512-974-3888



FREE
EVENTS



School Yard Habitat Update

Donations and volunteers needed!

Campuses are looking for donations of the following materials for fall workdays:

Compost and/or soil

Native seeds, plants, shrubs and trees

Tools

4 inch pots

Limestone blocks

Cedar logs

Decomposed Granite

Bird Feeders and/or bird seed



Schoolyard Habitat Success Depends on Volunteers Like You!

For more upcoming volunteer opportunities, please contact:

Anne Muller AISD Outdoor Learning Specialist amuller@austinisd.org or 841-5070